
KATESGROVE NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION GROUP

Date & time of meeting: 25th October 2008, 7pm.

Location: New Christ Church Primary School, Milman Road, Reading, RG2 0AY

Apologies: Peter Kennedy (PKE), Carol Shepherd (CSH), Richard Stainthorp (RST).

Chair: Kath Langdale (KLA).

Present: Mark Cutler (MCU), Louise Keane (LKE), Mary McManus (MMC), PS Pete Moody (SPM), James Schlackman (JSC), Maria Soulsby (MSO), Cllr. Warren Swaine (WSW), Insp. Kevin Sinfield (IKS).

MINUTES

1. REVIEW OF ACTIONS FROM LAST MEETING

KLA opened by saying that the full agenda would not be covered due to lack of attendance, and instead would focus on reviewing actions from the last meeting.

1. *KLA to supply JSC with email address for neighbouring NAGs.*
2. *JSC to distribute minutes to neighbouring NAGs.*

Following a meeting between KLA and IKS it was decided that instead of sending full minutes to neighbouring NAGs, a more selective information sharing process would be set up so that only relevant points were passed on.

3. *SPM/IKS to bring NAG constitution and auto crime categories data to next meeting.*

Deferred to next meeting as low attendance rendered this largely irrelevant.

4. *PCSO Katie Gillan and PCSO Rod Holmes to talk to business in the area to suggest CCTV funding.*

IKS: Internal consultation within TVP revealed problems with permission for linking any new CCTV camera into the central system. The key issue is that the CCTV system is working at capacity both in terms of technology and manpower. There are already several hundred monitored CCTV cameras in Reading. There are also ever-present concerns over the so-called 'Big Brother' perception.

KLA asked for the issue to be raised at the upcoming Safer Reading Forum for South Reading.

5. *WSW to co-ordinate action on the graffiti board placements in 'The Tank'.*

WSW reported that no progress has yet been made on this,

KLA passed on a suggestion from PC Katy Lucas (ASB Reduction) that funding for this might be possible from a third-party source associated with the Madejski Academy.

6. *PCSO Katie Gillan to try to get an explanation about the attraction of tagging from known taggers*

IKS reported that PCSO Katie Gillan is shortly leaving the Neighbourhood Policing team. Her replacement is due to start in November.

7. *JSC to ensure TVP have the NAG email address.*

IKS reported that TVP still do not have the NAG email address as they have not been receiving any emails with minutes or agendas. KLA reported that others had noted similar issues. JSC reported that he had checked the mailing list recently and was surprised it was not working correctly.

JSC opined that the problem might be due to mail from Hotmail addresses being more likely to be misidentified as spam by recipient mail filters.

Both JSC and KLA will send test messages to the mailing list to try and ascertain the nature of the problem.

8. *MSO to produce 50x flyers for the NAG, PKG to distribute.*

MSO apologised for having not completed this. Will action next week during school half term.

9. *PSB to enquire with press office regarding having TVP press releases sent to the NAG for website publication.*

IKS reported that a monthly bulletin would be forwarded to the NAG email address for publication on the website.

WSW reported that the website was ready to go, but that problems with the Internet Service Provider hosting the site had meant it was not yet available. WSW hopes to have these resolved within a few days. Printouts were circulated showing the design of the site. Comms team to begin work on content for the site.

10. *KLA to approach surgery about placement of a NAG notice board.*

KLA reported that the first NAG noticeboard has gone up and that the surgery would be willing to host one if a second became available.

11. *JSC to supply a document with all NAG meeting and EVA dates to PKG for distribution to NAG members without email.*

JSC has sent the dates, but suggested that email problems have probably meant that many have not received it, and will send again from a different address.

2. MATTERS ARISING

KLA Passed on a note from CPO stating that she would no longer be attending the NAG.

KLA brought a couple of dates to the attention of the NAG:

- 4th November: Safer Reading Forum for South Reading, 7pm at South Reading Youth and Community Centre on Northumberland Avenue.
- 22nd November, 2pm – 4pm, Katesgrove Children’s Centre has an autumn fair, to which the NAG is invited to a table for publicity. KLA will attend and requested vehicle crime leaflet from TVP. JSC will also attend.

3. PROBLEM SOLVING – VEHICLE CRIME

SPM reported that since the last NAG meeting, approximately 150 vehicles have been identified by PCSO Rod Holmes as being vulnerable to SatNav theft. Registered keepers have been sent letters by TVP Crime Reduction.

IKS reported that there was plenty of evidence internally to suggest a high risk of theft from vehicles.

MSO offered to send vehicle crime reduction leaflets home to parents via the school. IKS to supply leaflets.

4. NAG ATTENDANCE

IKS expressed concern at the poor attendance, stressed that the NAG needed to work on a target of doubling the attendance at the next meeting, said he would be tasking the Neighbourhood Police team to encourage as many people as possible to attend, and asked that all NAG members do the same in their respective circles.

KLA offered to door-knock with PRH if needed.

KLA also passed on feedback from one of the Community Wardens that suggested they were being re-tasked by their management to not attend NAGs. IKS noted his concern at the overall lack of attendance by RBC and countered that the Council had committed to taking part, so he would be chasing this up. Specially, the NAG had found input from James Sankar and Rob Oldham to be useful and hoped they could attend in future.

IKS stressed that more resident members were essential.

MSO extended an offer to TVP to talk to parents at the school during the start and end of the school day.

IKS tasked to pursue housing groups to send representatives.

JSC suggested MSO ask amongst the school's governors for involvement. SO to check with New Christ Church governors and also pass the message on to Katesgrove Primary School asking them to contact their governors.

IKS will also be contacting the Katesgrove Residents Association.

5. EVA

JSC circulated a news clipping supplied by MMC of coverage of the last NAG, which was deemed a success.

The next EVA is on Tuesday 28th October 2008 at 10.30hrs, meeting on Elgar Road South at the junction with Waterloo Rise.

6. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is on 20th November, 7pm, at New Christ Church School.

ACTIONS FOR NEXT MEETING

1. IKS to bring NAG constitution to next meeting.
2. WSW to email NAG members when website is available.
3. JSC and KLA to send test emails to the NAG mailing list to try and identify the source of the apparent communication problems.
4. MSO to produce 50x flyers for the NAG for distribution
5. JSC to re-send NAG and EVA dates via email. TVP to circulate to those without email.
6. IKS to supply vehicle crime reduction leaflets to MSO for distribution.
7. TVP to encourage future NAG attendance, in particular from RBC, housing groups, and KRA.
8. MSO to ask for involvement from school governors.